

**Introduced by Senators Lara, Bates, Hall, Hancock, Jackson, Leno,
Leyva, Liu, Mitchell, Nguyen, Pan, Pavley, and Wolk**

September 10, 2015

Senate Resolution No. 52—Relative to Syrian refugees.

1 WHEREAS, Since 2011, an estimated 9 million Syrians have
2 left their homes to escape war, more than 4 million have fled the
3 country all together to escape civil war and violence, and 6.5
4 million are internally displaced within Syria; and
5 WHEREAS, The number of Syrian refugees rapidly increased
6 as the conflict worsened and the number is expected to grow
7 exponentially in the next year; and
8 WHEREAS, the United Nations refugee agency has asked the
9 United States of America and other wealthy countries to open their
10 doors to the most vulnerable victims of the conflict; and
11 WHEREAS, the United Nations High Commissioner for
12 Refugees has referred more than 16,000 case files to the United
13 States for consideration in the last year; however, the United States
14 has admitted fewer than 1,500 Syrian refugees; and
15 WHEREAS, In the past, the United States admitted half of all
16 cases, but during this crisis has accepted far fewer cases; and
17 WHEREAS, In September 2015, the State Department
18 announced the United States of America would accept 10,000
19 more Syrian refugees next year; and
20 WHEREAS, Millions of Syrian refugees are desperate for
21 stability and security; and
22 WHEREAS, Civil war in Syria has ripped the country apart;
23 and
24 WHEREAS, Approximately 3,000 refugees, including mothers,
25 fathers, and children, have died attempting to flee Syria by crossing

1 the Mediterranean Sea and thousands more have died in Syria due
2 to war; now, therefore, be it

3 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, That the United*
4 *States of America has a moral obligation to assist innocent Syrian*
5 *civilians; and*

6 *Resolved, That the Senate urges the President to dramatically*
7 *increase the number of Syrian refugees allowed into the United*
8 *States OF America; and*

9 *Resolved, That the Senate urges the President of the United*
10 *States to work with the United Nations and other countries to*
11 *preserve life and dignity for Syrian refugees; and be it further*

12 *Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of*
13 *this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.*